II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method of creating a composite image, comprising:

providing a composite image template that includes at least one image area; and

associating at least one image with the at least one image area; and

saving the composite image based on the composite image template and the at least one image.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising generating a composite image template file that describes the composite image template using a graphical user interface.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the generating step includes adding a first image area to the composite image template.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the generating step further includes adding a second image area to the composite image template.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the second image area and the first image area overlap.

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6. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the generating step includes selecting background attributes of the composite image template.

7. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the generating step includes adding at least one template image file to the composite image template.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising adjusting the at least one image to conform to the associated image area.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the adjusting step comprises at least one of: clipping, rotating, stretching, and skewing the at least one image.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the saved composite image comprises an image file.

11. (Original) A system for creating a composite image, comprising:

an image display system for displaying the composite image, wherein the composite image is based on a composite image template that includes at least one image area;

an association system for associating at least one image with the at least one image area; and

an image file system for saving the composite image based on the composite image template and the at least one image.

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12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, further comprising a template definition
system for generating a composite image template file that describes the composite image
template using a graphical user interface, wherein the image display system uses the composite
image template file.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the template definition system includes:

a template display system for displaying the composite image template;

a background system for selecting background attributes of the composite image
template;

an image area system for adding an image area to the composite image template; and

a template file system for saving the composite image template as a composite image
template file.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the template definition system further includes a
template image system for associating a template image file with the composite image template.

15. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the association system displays the associated at
least one image within the at least one image area.

16. (Original) The system of claim 11, further comprising a thumbnail system for displaying a
template image that is associated with the composite image template.

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17. (Original) A program product stored on a recordable medium for creating a composite image, which when executed comprises:

program code for displaying the composite image, wherein the composite image is based on a composite image template that includes at least one image area;

program code for associating at least one image with the at least one image area; and

program code for saving the composite image based on the composite image template and the at least one image.

18. (Currently Amended) The program product of claim 17, further comprising program code for generating a composite image template file that describes the composite image template using a graphical user interface, wherein the image display system uses the composite image template file.

19. (Original) The program product of claim 18, wherein the program code for generating includes:

program code for displaying the composite image template;

program code for selecting background attributes of the composite image template;

program code for adding an image area to the composite image template;

program code for associating a template image file with the composite image template; and

program code for saving the composite image template as a composite image template file.

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20. (Original) The program product of claim 18, further comprising program code for displaying a template image that is associated with the composite image template.

21. (New) The system of claim 11, wherein at least one of the at least one image area is not rectangular.

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